

## TELLS OF MISUSE OF WHITE FLAG

Germans Pretend to Surrender and Then Fire on the Unsuspecting British

Private William Wilmott, of the 2nd Battalion Oxfordshire and Bucks Light Infantry, who has returned to his home at Reading wounded, is one of the first to reach England of the soldiers who have been engaged in the long sustained battle now raging. At first, he said, the Allies were outnumbered by three to one, but after a desperate fight the Germans were got on the run, and in three days they fell back between thirty and forty miles, losing badly in the course of their retreat.

### Many Prisoners

On the third day, Private Wilmott continued, our division captured 350 prisoners and eleven machine guns. These mostly fell to the King's Royal Rifles, whose work was magnificent.

The Germans made sundry endeavours to catch our fellows napping, on several occasions hoisting the white flag. Once or twice their ruse succeeded, as no sooner had our men ceased firing than the enemy commenced to pour lead into them. Afterwards, I need hardly mention, no notice was taken of such action.

Our artillery were very deadly. Nothing could have been finer. Their aim was extremely accurate, and we found many of the German trenches full of dead and wounded.

## NOW BELIEVE IN BRITISH WAY

Many of Botha's For Opponents Change Views

Opposition by Hertzogites to the German South-West African expedition is fast dying, and there is no longer any programme for embracing the Government.

It is understood that General De Wet, who is speaking at Potchefstroom, will endeavour to put himself right before the country.

The Government are getting offers of assistance from the Dutch in all parts, including the Free State. A large commando of Dutch burghers from Zoutpansberg have volunteered, and all are most enthusiastic.

General Tobias South, who spoke against the expedition in Parliament, now announces that General Botha has convinced him that the expedition is right. He is now engaged in recruiting.

One notable incident I remember cost the Germans heavily. Their main army had retreated, leaving their rearguard to cover their action. These latter were some 2,000 strong, and the move must have cost the enemy fully two-thirds of them.

So great was the number of the German dead that 100 men of the Worcesters were detailed to bury them; gruesome work, which they stuck to during the whole of one night. Our losses were heavy, but those of the Germans enormous.

In their retreat the Germans left three-parts of their transports.

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## HOW CORPORAL AVENGED FAMILY

With Seven Comrades He Made a Trip to German Station in Train, Killing Large Number

London, Oct. 19.—This story of the audacity of eight Belgians who set out from Ghent to avenge the cold-blooded murder of the father and brother of one of their number was related to a London correspondent by M. S.—, a Belgian volunteer scout. The day before the fight at Melle, a little corporal of Belgian volunteers, who was an ironworker of Charleroi, was seated in Ghent discussing with comrades the atrocities committed by the Germans, when the news was brought to him that his father and brother with many civilians, had been shot in cold blood by the Germans.

He was a brave little man, but the first shock of the news sent the blood rushing to his heart. For some minutes his face worked with emotion, but not a word escaped him.

### Vow of Revenge

It was not until one of his comrades placed his hand sympathetically on the little corporal's shoulder that he gave any sign that he was aware of their presence. Then he arose and in an unnaturally calm voice, but very deadly in its emphasis, he declared: "Yes: today I will kill some Germans."

"Comrades," he continued, with his hand raised above his head, as if to strengthen the vow he had made, "there are men of courage among you. Who will join me this night in avenging my father and brother?"

### Seven Volunteered

"One after another seven men stepped

forward and clasped his hand in pledge of their willingness.

At nine o'clock that night the little corporal and his seven friends met at Ghent station. Each had a rifle and some cartridges. A station official who did not know their errand, but feared some mad adventure, asked, "Where are you going? Do you know that the Germans are all around us, and will show you no mercy if they catch you?" All attempts to dissuade them from their adventure were fruitless. "It is our business," was their only answer.

A little way out of the station an engine and tender stood. The driver was oiling his engine, but he found time to listen to the suggestion of the little corporal, who had stolen up to him quietly along the line. He lent a favorable ear to the proposal, and soon the corporal was joined in the tender by his seven friends.

### Commandeered an Engine

The driver started his engine very slowly as if about to perform a shunting operation, but when deception would no longer serve him he increased his speed, and only reduced it when the lights of the next station came into view. Between two and three hundred yards from the station he stopped the engine.

A sentry on guard at the end of the platform which was half full of German soldiers, eating, drinking or sleeping, showed interest in the driver's movements. There could be no danger, of course, from a mere railway engine, but perhaps it would be better to report the matter to an officer. The sentry had not seen eight figures descend stealthily from the engine and disappear in a ditch running parallel with the railway.

### Fired Deadly Volley

If he had his life would probably have been saved. As it turned out, no sooner did the officer and sentry reach the end of the platform than eight Belgian rifles spoke and several German soldiers fell dead, including the officer and the sentry.

Then into the midst of the disorder and panic created on the platform the Belgians fired another volley. More bodies fell, and a rush to escape took place among the terrified Germans, who feared an attack in force.

Under cover of this mad confusion the little corporal and his friends climbed into the tender. The driver needed no exhortation to make for Ghent at full speed, and the rain of bullets that was poured on the daring nine by the disillusioned enemy fortunately missed its mark.

Thus did the ex-ironworker of Charleroi, with the help of his daring friends, avenge the murder of his father and brother and keep his vow "to kill some Germans today."

## NEW PICTURES AT NICKEL THEATRE

A new programme was given at the Nickel Theatre last evening. The Lubin Co. are the artistes in the two-reel film, "Out of the Depths."

It is a strong story of folly and misfortune, precipitating adventure and culminating in a charming love match.

"The Swan Girl" is a clever drama by the Vitagraph Co. in which the clever actress Anita Stewart, and E. K. Lincoln play the leading characters.

"Her Legacy" is a thrilling melodrama with splendid settings. "He would a-hunting go" is a Keystone comedy. This company ranks among America's best comedy troupes and their plays are in demand everywhere.

Beside the foregoing there was a full reel of "Mutual Weekly."

Mr. Arthur C. Huskins repeated his popular songs "Mother Macree" and "Under the Rose." Nothing but the best of pictures is shown at the Nickel theatre, and to-day's bill is in keeping with the others there of late. Prof. McCarthy and Mr. Joe F. Ross will give an attractive musical programme.

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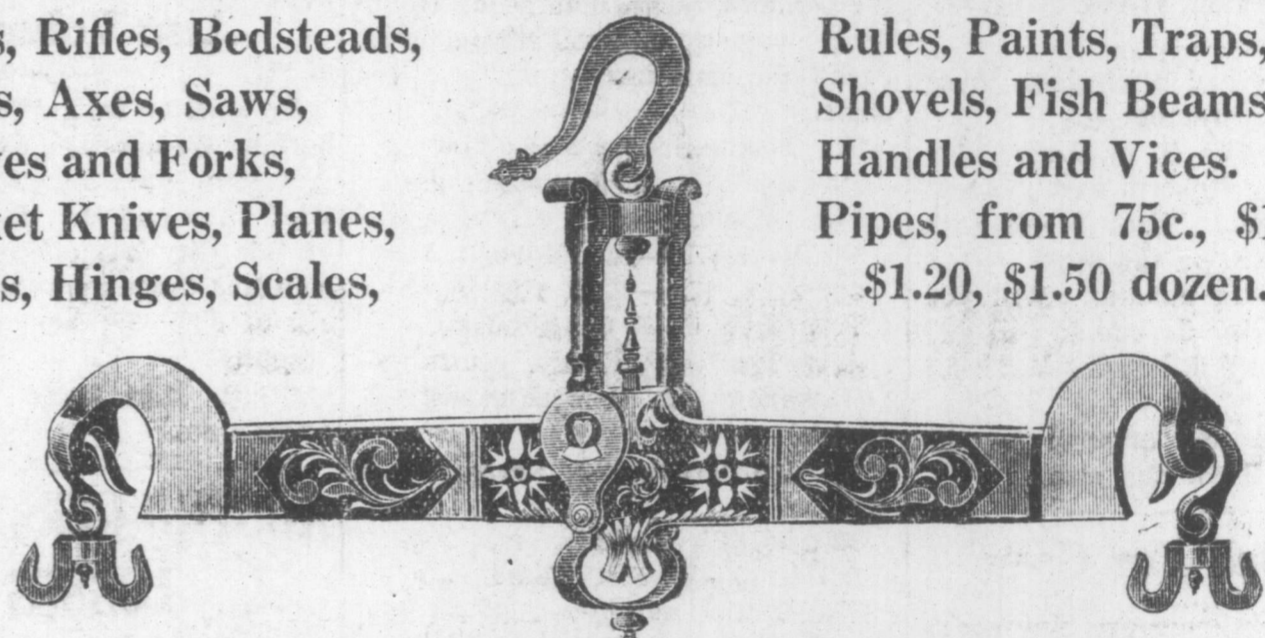
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